

REMARKS

Claims 15-23 are currently pending in the captioned application, claims 1-14 having been canceled.

Claims 15-21 were previously allowed over the prior art (See Office Action dated May 20, 2004). The Examiner did not explicitly address claims 22 and 23 in the May 20, 2004 office action but it is assumed that these claims are also allowed since they depend from allowed claim 21.

In the present office action claims 15-23 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-40 of copending Application No. 10/942,499. The applicant cannot locate any copending application having the serial number identified by the Examiner. It is believed that the Examiner may be referring to an application that was filed *after* the present application. However, it is respectfully submitted that an application filed *after* the present application would not constitute proper grounds for an obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

In view of the above, allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 21, 2006